



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND THE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (ALSO INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE NEW IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE).

(In their 9-13 May 2016 meeting¹, the SC agreed to submit this discussion paper to the Focus Group on Establishing an Implementation Committee, 18-22 July 2016, Paris)

The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) and the CPM Bureau have expressed strong support for an integrated approach between standard setting and the implementation of the Convention and its standards.

Discussions on facilitating communication, collaboration and strengthening the relationship between standard setting and implementation (as functions of the different IPPC subsidiary bodies supported by the IPPC Secretariat) were stimulated by the Secretariat Enhancement Evaluation recommendation to enhance integration between standard setting and implementation.

Increased collaboration between the Standards Committee (SC) and the Capacity Development Committee (CDC) in particular will provide an opportunity to draw on the expertise of both these bodies and support harmonisation and implementation of the Convention and its standards.

At CPM-11(2016) it was agreed that there was an identified need to have further in depth discussions and analysis about the establishment of the new IPPC implementation committee (to replace the CDC), which could be undertaken by a CPM Focus Group meeting 18-22 July 2016 in Paris.

The terms of reference for this Focus Group include, amongst other tasks, that the Focus Group consider, discuss and report on the functions of the new implementation committee and the relationships with the CPM, the CPM Bureau, the IPPC Secretariat, the Standards Committee and the Strategic Planning Group.

In their 9-13 May 2016 meeting¹, the SC agreed to submit this discussion paper on the relationship between the SC and the Implementation Committee, on how the new IPPC subsidiary body on implementation could operate and interact with the SC in achieving their respective work programmes, to the Focus Group on Establishing an Implementation Committee.

In particular, the SC was requested to consider the processes that would be needed to be developed to ensure the SC and the CDC (or its replacement) would deliver on the request from CPM-11 (2016) outlined below.

Specific actions arising from CPM-11 relating to interactions between SC and the CDC (or its replacement)

CPM-11:

- Endorsed the *Framework for standards and implementation* and agreed that the SC and the CDC (or its replacement) is reviewed and amended jointly between the SC and the CDC.
- Agreed that a combined call for topics for standards and tools for implementation should be made, which would be reviewed with input from the SC and the CDC, or its successor.
- Requested the SC and the CDC review and adapt the current process to allow a call to be made, including any changes to the assessment criteria needed.

¹ Please refer to the May 2016 SC meeting report for more information, section 3.2: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standards-setting/standards-committee/>

To deliver on the request from CPM-11 and input into the discussion of tasks in the Focus Group Terms of Reference:

The SC and the CDC, as decided by CPM-11 (2016), is requested to conduct a joint call for topics for standards and tools for implementation should be evaluated by the SC and the CDC (or its replacement) respectively against pre-set criteria. Both bodies would use the *Framework for standards and implementation* to consider the proposed topics and tools (e.g. identify where there is a clear gap), share their assessments between them and together present their assessments in this *Framework* to the SPG.

The SC and CDC may also need to review existing criteria and develop new criteria respectively to assess if topics and tools proposed by contracting parties and Regional Plant Protection Organizations are best suited as ISPM topics or phytosanitary resources.

To align standard setting and implementation of its standards better, the SC may propose that it would be of use that the SC and CDC identify a suitable time to jointly meet to discuss and review the *Framework for standards and implementation* and the new topics and tools prior to review by the SPG and presentation to CPM. The SC and CDC could develop a specification or Terms of Reference against which to operate.

Increased integration, supported through enhanced communication and a call for topics and tools, will contribute to improve transparency, ensure efficient use of resources and involve Contracting Parties and RPPOs in identifying and agreeing to what tools are needed and recommending their priority. This will enable the CPM to decide what needs to be added to the work plan for standards and implementation and the priorities that should be given to the development of all these tools.

Other practical ways to increase collaboration could relate directly to the development of an ISPM. For example, in the development of draft ISPMs by expert drafting groups there is a task in the specification requesting the experts to “*consider implementation of the ISPMs by contracting parties and identify potential operational and technical implementation issues, and also provide information and possible recommendations on these issues to the Standards Committee*”. Acting on this information is difficult to tackle by the EDGs and the SC, and could be an issue to be addressed together with the CDC to take into consideration in the development of phytosanitary resource material developed to support the implementation of the ISPM. Similarly, in the development of phytosanitary resource material, the CDC may identify issues that would benefit from harmonisation and this information could be provided to the SC to take into consideration when reviewing the *Framework for standards and implementation* or in the development of an associated ISPM.

The SC also considered longer term options such as having a “standard steward” and an “implementation steward” working together on issues associated with implementation in the development of ISPMs or issues associated with harmonization in the development of guidance material.

The SC proposes that it would be useful for the Focus Group to consider how this new body and the SC could identify whether a topic or a tool should be dealt with by an ISPM, guidance material, phytosanitary resource material or another form of document.

Building on the intent of enhancing the collaboration between the SC and the CDC (or its replacement), the SC proposes that the two committees directly interact with each other by preparing and sharing discussion papers which identify issues or concerns related to the interface between setting standards and implementing them.

In addition to agreeing to submit this discussion paper to the Focus Group on Establishing an Implementation Committee, in their May 2016 meeting, the SC:

- invited the CDC to work with the SC on identifying and developing the terms of reference and objectives of a joint SC/CDC meeting for discussion at their respective meetings for presentation to CPM.

- requested the Secretariat to identify a suitable time for the joint meeting of the SC and CDC to meet, once these Terms of reference have been discussed and agreed upon by CPM.

Recommendations to the Focus Group on Establishing an Implementation Committee:

The Focus Group is requested to consider the issues identified in this paper and the proposals from the SC on how the new IPPC subsidiary body on implementation could operate and interact with the SC in achieving their respective work programmes.